

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	Poland	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Polish Reaction to the Internment of the Crew of the M.T. PRACA	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	7 October 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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2. The families of the interned crew have until now been taken care of by the CZPMH (Central Board of the Polish Merchant Marine). All letters from the crew to their families have been used for propaganda purposes. The letters were read at a meeting of the families in the presence of the directors and representatives of the Ministry of Shipping.
3. During one of these meetings, Golyasny, speaking to the wives of the interned men, stated that the crew held "in captivity" on Formosa were being well treated and surrounded with luxury in order to make a good impression on them and to entice them to remain. The Polish authorities, however, were unperturbed and were trying to secure their release which, they hoped, would be very soon.
4. When the news reached Poland that a large number of the crew had refused to return to Poland, the propaganda died down and officially nothing more was said about the matter.
5. Various rumors are circulating on the subject of the interned crew. The most popular ones are:
  - a. Sailors who applied for asylum to the Chinese authorities did not do so of their own free will. They were persuaded to sign a request for asylum after having been frightened by the suggestion that, if they returned to Poland, they would be held responsible for what had happened.

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- b. The majority of those who asked for asylum did so in order to get away from Formosa. When they reach any other country which has diplomatic relations with the Polish Government, they will request repatriation to Poland.
- c. The members of the crew who applied to return to Poland will be transferred to Moscow and their families will travel there too. The purpose of this will be to isolate them from their native land.

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